



WATER SUPPLY PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 10, 2014

8:00 am

Public Works Meeting Room

Meeting called by: Jason Skeels and Ellie Kurth

Type of meeting: Regularly Scheduled

Attendees: Lyons Witten (chair), Steve Dunn (note taker), Stephen Mabee, John Tobiason, Brian Yellen, David Ziomek (Assistant Town Manager/Director of Conservation and Development), Julie Federman (Amherst Health Department), Sigurd Nilsen (Amherst Woods Homeowners Assoc.), Peggy Matthews-Nilsen (Amherst Woods Homeowners Assoc.).

MINUTES

1. Review of minutes from previous meeting and vote: MINUTES ACCEPTED
2. Update on snow and ice road treatments: Less tonnage of material was applied per storm, but we don't yet have total budget of tonnage numbers. Several locations will be tested for chloride, conductivity, and TDS. Clean up is much easier this year, much less sand.
3. Fluoride in Amherst water: The Amherst Board of Health is revisiting this issue in response to public inquiries. Amherst adds solid NaF_2 to water as it has since 1987, maintaining ~1 mg/liter fluoride. Pretreated water fluoride levels must be very low levels, e.g., nanogram/L levels. A relatively recent Harvard review of literature regarding fluoride neurotoxicity indicates that further studies are warranted. The Board of Health is investigating and hopes to come to a conclusion or recommendation. This may be brought to Fall 2014 Town Meeting if a warrant is presented. Committee members are requested to send the Board of Health any pertinent literature we may be aware of.
4. Update on sewer and water line extensions and replacements:
 - a. Harkness Road: Phase I awarded to Revoli (Franklin MA) to start May 5th, one month job, Dayton Lane to Stony Hill.
 - b. Amherst Woods: Phase I awarded to Revoli, might start in June. Schedule not submitted yet. Wildflower from Larkspur to Teaberry and Woodlot. Will involve some deepcuts, 20' on Woodlot, 18' on Wildflower.
 - c. Amherst Woods: Phase II will be bidding in end of May or early June. Larkspur to Station Road, including cul de sacs.

- d. Pine Street: Some testing and hookups remain. Sewer from East Pleasant Street to Cushman yet to complete. Should be done in ~1 month.
 - e. Hazel Avenue: Complete Hazel Ave to bike lane to Snell St.
 - f. Harris and Fisher Streets: Completed design for water main replacement.
 - g. Northampton Road: Under design. South Pleasant Street to University Ave., replace existing 8" and 6" C.I. with 12" cement line ductile iron (C.L.D.I.)
5. Hadley interconnection update: Meter fix on Meadow St. to connect Hadley supply to Amherst supply. Waiting on the manholes.
6. Amherst Streamflow Monitoring, Preliminary Data Summary: Data is being collected in response to SWMI models. Three near Atkins diversion (Nurse, Dean, and Adams Brooks), one on Fort River, and two on Montague Brook. The dry summer 2013 conditions are evident in the 2013-14 data. Monitoring will continue. Measured discharge and development of rating curves are ongoing. Amherst might submit a grant request to SWMI to create a model for Amherst surface waters.
7. Wells, water treatment plants, and storage tanks:
- a. Update on Centennial WTP upgrades: Pilot testing in mid-May to mid-June.
8. Watershed Protection activities
- a. Amherst Road and East Leverett Road timber harvests: north side of Amherst Road at Hawley Reservoir to remove dying red pines. Work completed, went well. No serious complaints. Add additional species. Some additional harvesting on-going on west side of Hawley Reservoir and some will take place on east side in near future. Logging north of Atkins Reservoir completed. All good (little to no feedback).
 - b. Property acquisition projects: Ongoing plans to purchase Cowls parcels near Atkins Reservoir. The Town is in the process of trying to add several adjacent lots. All are zone A or zone B (high priority).
9. Next Meeting: September 11th, 2014, 8:00am.
10. Other items not reasonably anticipated 48 hours before the meeting:
- Jesse Schwalbaum will be stepping off this committee.

Adjourned 9:25 am.